

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mazza opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

“Sunshine Law” Announcement: Adequate notice of this public meeting has been provided by the Annual Notice; faxed to the Hunterdon Democrat and Courier News; posted on the public bulletin board and on file in the Municipal Clerk’s Office.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL - Present: Rob Haynes, Matt Severino, Lisa Nargi, Patricia Dziubek and Frank Mazza. J. Peter Jost, Esq., Township Attorney; John Reymann, P.E., Township Engineer and Ella Malecki Ruta, Township Clerk, were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Session 2/19/07; - Motion was made by Mr. Haynes to approve Budget Workshop Minutes as amended, seconded by Mrs. Dziubek, to adopt said Minutes. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried. Regular Meeting and Executive Session 2/21/07; - Motion was made by Mrs. Nargi to approve Regular and Executive Session Minutes, seconded by Mrs. Dziubek, to adopt said Minutes. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

At 7:10 p.m. the following resolution was introduced for adoption.

**RESOLUTION#2007-40
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to go into closed session during a public meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Union Township Committee has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Union will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12: Potential Litigation - Grand Colonial.

Motion was made by Mrs. Dziubek, seconded by Mr. Severino, to adopt the above resolution. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

At approximately 7:25 motion was made by Mr. Haynes, seconded by Mrs. Dziubek, to return to the regular meeting. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

REPORTS RECEIVED –	1. Road Dept.	2/17-2/23 & 2/24-3/2/07
	2. Tax Collector	February 2007
	3. Finance Officer; Claims Register	3/07/07

Zoning Officer will submit his report for March 21st Twp. Committee Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE – Mrs. Nargi referred to letter from Karen Koerner regarding road drainage at 8 Baptist Church Road. Township Attorney Jost will respond in writing.

Mr. Severino mentioned NJLM memo on recent legislation authorizing municipalities to increase annual dog license fee to a maximum of \$21.00. Twp. Committee will review data regarding cost associated with dog licensing and decision will be render upon findings at later time.

Mrs. Dziubek in support for Municipalities Receiving State Police General Patrol Services motioned to adopt the following resolution, Mr. Haynes seconded. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION #2007-41
Supporting Court Surcharges to Finance Rural Policing**

WHEREAS, a group of mayors and other municipal representatives met with the New Jersey Attorney General to continue work towards an acceptable compromise regarding the cost of State Police patrolling rural municipalities; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the meeting an Executive Committee was appointed to attend any future meetings and negotiations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Union Township, Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey supports an offer presented by several Mayors, to consider a dedicated municipal court surcharge to finance both rural policing and state mandated municipal court security upgrades.

Mrs. Dziubek mentioned letter from Ferriera Construction Co. Inc. regarding purchase of the former Pattenburg Quarry; further discussion is scheduled for the next Township Committee meeting.

Mr. Haynes made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Dziubek to adopt following **Resolution #2007-42** designating March 2007 as “Women’s History Month”:

RESOLUTION #2007-42
Designating March 2007 as “Women’s History Month”

WHEREAS, New Jersey women of every race, class and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our County in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of the life of the County by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey women have played a unique role throughout the history of the County by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the County and State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural institutions in our State; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey women of every race, class and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement and other movements, especially the peace movement, which create a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, despite these contributions, the role of women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, specifically the Division on Women, is to remember and celebrate New Jersey women and to:

- Ensure that New Jersey women are offered equal opportunities in education, the workforce and healthcare regardless of age, sexual orientation, income, ethnicity, race or religion.
- Identify, implement, measure and coordinate programs that address the needs of New Jersey women.
- Engage in continuous study and research on issues affecting New Jersey women and their families, develop policy papers and legislative recommendations

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Union Township Committee of the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that March 2007 is hereby designated as “Women’s History Month – Generation of Women Moving History Forward”.

Motion was made by Mr. Haynes, seconded by Mrs. Nargi to adopt following **Resolution #2007-43** recognizing April 2007 as National Autism Month in the County of Hunterdon:

RESOLUTION #2007-43
Recognizing April 2007 as National Autism Month in the County of Hunterdon

WHEREAS, Autism is a Pervasive Developmental Disorder that manifests itself in the first three years of life, and affects the social, learning and behavioral skills of those affected by it; and

WHEREAS, Autism is currently estimated to affect 1 in every 94 people in New Jersey, and over one and a half million people in the United States of America have some form of an Autism Spectrum Disorder including High Functioning Autism, Autism, Asperger’s Syndrome and Pervasive Developmental Disorder; and

WHEREAS, Autism is said to affect boys four times more than girls and knows no racial, ethnic or social boundaries, and neither income, lifestyle, nor education affects the occurrence; and

WHEREAS, a single specific cause of Autism is not known, but current research links it to biological or neurological differences in the brain, as well as environmental assaults and neurotoxins. Outdated theories and myths have been proven false, such as Autism being a mental illness, or any fault of the mother; and

WHEREAS, accurate, early diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education and interventions are vital to the growth and development of the individual; and

WHEREAS, the diagnosis of Autism is not reserved for the individual affected by it but that the entire family has to recover, and the stresses of rearing children with Autism attribute to a divorce rate of nearly 85% in this community; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey offers a wide range of services and supports to this population through various organizations including the Autism Family Services of New Jersey, New Jersey Center for Outreach Services for the Autism Community (COSAC), Unlocking Autism, Parents of Autistic Children (POAC), The NJ Governor's Council on Autism, Impact, Parents for Autism Autoimmune and Vaccine Education (PAVVE), Vaccine Liberation – NJ Chapter, PACT, New Jersey Family Support Council, The Autism Center at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Autism Speaks and CAN, the Organization for Autism Research, FACES, A-CHAMP, ARC of NJ, ASPEN, Autism Society of America, National Autism Association, Autism-In-Hunterdon and SPAN;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Union Township Committee of the County of Hunterdon does hereby recognize **April 2007** as **National Autism Awareness Month**, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine, all Boards of Chosen Freeholders in the State of New Jersey, all Hunterdon County Legislators and municipalities in the County of Hunterdon.

Mr. Mazza mentioned a Public Notice from Highlands Council on upcoming public meeting on March 21, 2007 at 5:00 PM at Ridge High School at 268 South Finley Avenue in Basking Ridge. No pre-registration required.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tom Ricker - various issues; unapproved minutes posted on the website. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Mrs. Nargi, seconded by Mr. Haynes to make clearly marked as unapproved (not officially approved by the Twp. Committee) Township Committee meeting minutes available on the township website. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek, Mr. Mazza. Vote – Nay: Mr. Severino. Motion carried.

Mrs. Nargi suggested making revisions to an existing street lighting ordinance; Mr. Jost will inquire with other municipalities about said ordinances.

Brian Kirkpatric, stated that members of Environmental Commission as well as Open Space Committee were selected through open just process.

Possible Park and Ride in Union Township was briefly discussed. Mr. Mazza will find out date for the next meeting pertaining to this issue.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **2007 Cozze Brothers LLC; Junkyard License Renewal Application**

Motion was made by Mr. Severino, seconded by Mrs. Nargi, to approve renewal of Junkyard License Application for Cozze Brothers LLC. Vote - Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

2. **2007 Pattenburg Realty/Steven Heyman Trailer Park Renewal License Application**

Mr. Jost and Mr. Haynes recused themselves. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Nargi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Severino to approve Renewal of the Trailer Park License Application. Vote - Ayes: Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza.

3. **RESOLUTION #2007-44**: 2007 Professional Service Contract; Carl Hintz, PP; Planning Services.

RESOLUTION #2007-44 UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY

AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR PLANNING CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR 2007 Clarke-Caton-Hintz/Carl E. Hintz, PP

WHEREAS, the Township of Union has a need to acquire planning services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A.19:44-A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount of the contract may exceed the threshold amount established pursuant to N.J.S.A.40A:11-3(b); and

WHEREAS, funds are available; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for “Professional Services” without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection;

WHEREAS, CLARKE CATON HINTZ has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that CLARKE CATON HINTZ has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Union in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit CLARKE CATON HINTZ from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached agreement with Clarke-Caton-Hintz/Carl E. Hintz, PP, for planning consulting services for 2007.
2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “Professional Service” in accordance with 40A:11-5(1) (a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because Carl E. Hintz is a professional planner.
3. Approval of the attached contract is subject to availability and appropriation of sufficient funds as may be required in the 2007 temporary and permanent Municipal budgets.
4. A Notice of this action shall be printed once in the official newspaper.

Mrs. Nargi motioned, Mr. Haynes seconded to approve above said contract. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

4. **Viking Pest Control Proposal**; Historical Society Building; \$2,160.00
After a brief discussion, motion was made by Mr. Severino, seconded by Mr. Haynes to sign a contract with Viking Pest Control in the amount of \$2,160.00 to treat bats and squirrels infestations. Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

David Mills, Twp. Zoning Officer reported; denied zoning permit application to Pilot Travel Center LLC for renovations; sent commercial/industrial application for Continuing Certificate of Occupancy- no response as of today.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The following resolution was introduced for adoption

RESOLUTION #2007-45
UNION TOWNSHIP; HUNTERDON COUNTY
REFUND OF TAX SALE PREMIUM

WHEREAS, there exists a premium of taxes for the following tax sale certificate which was redeemed on February 16, 2007:

TAX SALE		QUALIFIER -		NAME	AMOUNT
CERTIFI-	CATE #	BLOCK	LOT		

0507		25	1.07	Hulse, Richard & Chi Yin	\$27,100.00

* To be refunded to Park Finance, LLC

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the refund of tax sale premium be returned to the above stated name, and that the Chief Finance Officer of the Township of Union is hereby authorized to issue a check in the stated amount.

Motion was made by Mrs. Dziubek, seconded by Mrs. Nargi, to adopt the above resolution. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

2. The following resolution was introduced for adoption

RESOLUTION #2007-46
UNION TOWNSHIP; HUNTERDON COUNTY
TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, The Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, The recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, A resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for such tonnage grants for calendar year **2007** will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, Such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, Hunterdon County, hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates William Garrison to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nargi, seconded by Mr. Severino, to adopt the above resolution. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

NEW ORDINANCES – 1st Reading

Mayor Mazza read the following ordinance by title and introduced same for 1st reading

ORDINANCE #2007-2

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$237,362.00; SECTION 319H NPS POLLUTION CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN FOR SIDNEY BROOK WATERSHED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, HUNTERDON COUNTY, N. J.

WHEREAS, the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, has been awarded a grant entitled “Section 319H NPS Pollution Control and Management Implementation Grant: Development of a Watershed Protection Plan for the Sidney Brook Watershed”; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that:

SECTION 1. The Township of Union is receiving a grant from the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Watershed Management in the amount of \$237,362.00 to be used for the funding of the aforementioned project; therefore is hereby appropriated as follows:

State Allocation:	\$237,362.00
Total	\$237,362.00

SECTION 2. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are inconsistent with the terms of the Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency;

SECTION 3. There is no debt incurred by this ordinance.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect after proper passage and publication in accordance with law.

After a brief explanation, Mrs. Nargi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Severino, to adopt the above ordinance on 1st reading, publish same in its entirety in the Hunterdon County Democrat issue of March 15, 2007 and scheduled Public Hearing for the meeting of April 4, 2007. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Mr. Reymann mentioned the following: - approval to vacate Bl. 19, Lot 5.01 was questioned by Mr. Nargi, Chair of UTEC; it will be researched further; -contacted by twp. resident Douglas Dickison regarding permit for additional driveway on his property; Mr. Reymann is looking for guidance in this matter; will issue a letter of township ordinance violation; - meeting needs to be scheduled with Highlands Commission; Mayor Mazza will contact Mr. Reymann with possible dates; - submitted a report regarding Route 78, Exists 12/15.

Mrs. Nargi asked if maps received from Maser Consulting are marked with easements; Mr. Jost stated it is not a requirement for an engineer to mark easements on township maps. Mrs. Nargi feels the necessity to obtain twp. maps with marked easements.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – Mr. Jost mentioned the following: - letter asking Township of Union to adopt ordinance prohibiting possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on private property by underage individuals; - memo regarding vacation pay for retired Clerk, Judy Fabian.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mr. Mazza mentioned the following: - adopting a Steep Slope Ordinance at one of the future committee meetings; - approval to make repairs at Mrs. Hoffman's House in the amount of \$1,300.00; motion was made by Mr. Severino, seconded by Mrs. Nargi, to approve necessary repairs. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORT

- Mrs. Nargi has personnel issues for Executive Session.
- Mr. Severino pointed out error in the DEP tonnage report by shortage of 70 tons of newspaper; it was challenged and letter was mailed certified.
- Mrs. Dziubek has scheduled a meeting with our website hosting representative; personnel matter for Executive Session.
- Mr. Haynes reported on Eagle Scout project completed by Ryan Homes of Troop 200; marking 2 existing paths going through the park; matter for executive session; expressed his concerns about documents being moved between offices of township hall without consulting with all members of the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Bill Bischoff, Planning Board Member congratulated Twp. Committee on wonderful job they are doing.

CLERK'S REPORT

- State Fire Inspection of Municipal Building & Garage; 2/27/07; No Violations.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS – Mr. Severino moved that all claims against the Township of Union as appearing in the Claims Register of this date be paid and that all checks listed hereinafter be issued in payment thereof; seconded by Mrs. Nargi. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Vote – Abstention: Mr. Haynes. 4 Ayes, 1 Abstention. Motion carried.

The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2007-47 EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to go into closed session during a public meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Union Township Committee has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Union will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12: Personnel Matters.

Motion was made by Mrs. Nargi, seconded by Mr. Severino, to adopt the above resolution. Vote – Ayes; Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Severino, seconded by Mrs. Nargi, to return to the regular meeting. Vote – Ayes; Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Haynes, seconded by Mr. Severino, to adjourn. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mrs. Nargi, Mrs. Dziubek and Mr. Mazza. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ella Malecki Ruta, RMC
Township Clerk